

DAILY RECORD-UNION

MONDAY, JUNE 11, 1888

The Record-Union is the only paper on the coast, outside of San Francisco, that receives the full Associated Press dispatches from all parts of the world. Outside of San Francisco, it has no competitor, in point of numbers, in its home and general circulation throughout the coast.

SAN FRANCISCO AGENCIES.

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NOT A QUESTION OF PARTISANSHIP.

One of the Democratic orators at the mass meeting Saturday night paid his respects to the Record-Union and announced it for "waving the bloody shirt."

Shall not all these things of the past be forgotten, he asked? Has not the war ended, and has the country had any four years of greater peace and prosperity than that now nearly concluded under Democratic rule?

With the perversity of the partisan stump orator when he takes up such questions, our friend reads those who rise superior to mere party considerations in discussing public questions blindly.

The Record-Union has not consciously waved the "bloody shirt," nor will it lend its influence to raking up the well-nigh dead embers of an unfortunate and cruel past.

Its desire for the unborken and cordial fraternity of Americans rises as high as any scale of patriotism and sincere love for the indissoluble Union can register. But it does not commit itself to the folly of forgetting, and never will cease to draw lessons of wisdom from the past for guidance in the present and the future. In common with the men of the nation it forgoes, but trusts never to become insensible to the memories so inextricably interwoven with the history of the most momentous peril of the nation. It has no reproaches to heap nor rebukes to administer for follies irreparable. But whenever any man or body of men of solemnly, and unprovoked, give the lie to recorded history and allege that they are and always have been the champions of an indissoluble Union, that record will not deem it inconsistent with the properties, but a duty to truth and the voters born since the war, to turn back the pages of political history and point to the platform planks that rebuke the assertion, with their declarations that the war for the Union was a failure, an indefensible contest and a useless sacrifice of life and treasure. Let those who made the record not uncover it.

If it is waving the bloody shirt to declare that the election of April 17, 1888, in the State of Louisiana, wherein one party made a gain of 75,000 votes over a not distant previous election, and where the total vote leaped up 90,000, in the face of the notorious fact that the population has suffered in its proportional growth with that of sister States, by steady exodus to newer lands; then to the arraignment of the plea of guilty should be entered. The Record-Union despises the partisanship that can see no higher good than the success of a party, and that deems all campaign means to that end justifiable. It aspires to an enlightened and just consideration of all public questions, and in now more presenting for public thought finds more of weigthy moment, than that which involves the free and unrestricted exercise of the right of suffrage, and the sanctity and protection of the ballot-box in every polling precinct of the land.

It is but an incident to this consideration that the most recent invasion of the equality of citizens at the polls happened to be made in Louisiana. That the representation in the national legislature is upon the basis of citizen population is a fact; that in one considerable section of the country the return of representation does not reflect the expression of the voters, is also a fact the cold figures render undeniable. That this result is due to a remaining disposition—left over from the prejudices of the anti-bellum period—largely made effective to prevent the colored citizens from freely voting, by one means or another, we believe is also indisputable, and that it is not crushed out utterly, and perfect equality before the law at the polls secured to the newly-enfranchised at the South, we believe to be fairly and justly chargeable to the policy and the cowardly subserviency of one of the great political parties of the day, which alone makes possible the political solidify of the South.

A party that is so much concerned about the accumulation of the surplus and the need for its reduction, and is properly solicitous, if its declarations are to be accepted as sincere, that all unjust and extraordinary taxation shall be abandoned; that went into power with the announced determination to "reform" abuses, and to expose the alleged fraudulent national book-keeping by its predecessor, must expect to be criticised by independent men and journals that value party only so far as it conserves justice and human rights, for its failure to effect reform in the South, where the cry for years gone up for the right to enjoy the constitutional guarantees of freedom. Its stump orators, despite their inability to get up and out of partisan grooves and to attain the plane of rational discussion of such questions, should be careful to manifest no sensitiveness concerning the bloody shirt, until the remotest suspicion is removed from party skirts that the humblest black-skinned citizen of the Louisiana lowlands, or the Carolina rice-fields, is by its act, connivance and silence cowed into unwilling use of or non-use of his ballot.

So far as the peace and prosperity of the country under the brief rule of the dominant party is concerned, that is not so much a matter for congratulation by the Democracy, when we reflect that the Republican party was for twenty-four years engaged in patriotic work to make such possible domination harmless when the time should come for it.

CAMPAIGN RALLYING SIGNALS.

We are inclined to think that the attempt to make a party oriflammé out of Mr. Thurman's mild madness in handkerchiefs will be ineffective, and we speak in no partisan sense whatever, but merely with the sentiment of campaign insignia in view. In the case of Lincoln, the "rail and maul" typified the self-made man, the genius that sprang to prominence out of an obscure region, and from the most unpromising conditions. In the campaign of 1856, the Fremont slouched hat had a decided meaning, as it spoke of the courage of the hardy pioneer and the trials endured in carving empires out of the boundless west. The costume of the

"pathfinder" was adopted for its ease in the saddle, and its adaptability to long and hard journeys; hence the broad slouched Fremont hat, with its black plume, came to be party regalia. The "Log Cabin" campaign drew its poetic inspiration from the cabin because it spoke of the borderland of the advancing Union, and the heroism of the men who pressed back the aboriginal tribes to make way for civilization. There was no necessity for a campaign banner in Grant's time; his deeds needed no banners or symbols for their recall, but his "Let us have Peace" and "I will fight it out on this line" were powerful aids to campaign enthusiasm. The forward Pullman coach was labeled with two-foot letters "Pacific Coast Delegation to the Republican National Convention, Chicago, 1888." The lettering is in red and black, heavily shaded, and surrounded by a border of leaves, flowers and grapes. In the center appears a large bear, having for a background a gorgeous California sunset. The design is sixty-five feet in length by three in width, and is in duplicate, each side of the car being decorated. One of the cartoons represents President Cleveland being buttoned into the Pacific Coast by Oregon men. They and with them five thousand soldiers with blue poles tipped with gold; also a beautiful silken banner of the size usually carried by State delegations. On one side appears in gilt upon a white background the motto of the American National Convention, 1856. In the center and at the great seal of the State. On the reverse side is the motto, "American Labor and Industry Shall Be Protected." In the center of the fields, upon which are left blank spaces, the names of the candidates will be painted as soon as all are nominated. The banner is fringed with heavy gold lace. It is an artistic creation.

The golden badge with which the members are provided is neat and appropriate. It consists of a small coin-shaped piece of metal, on which is inscribed "National Republican Convention, 1888." Depending from this badge are two ribbons, a cross-bar on which is lettered "California," red enamel, and from which hangs a small bear. The badge is pinned to a small card.

Secretaries of both the Garfield and the Garfield campaign because they spoke of the possibilities that open to American youth, and which that candidate demonstrated point toward the highest station from even the top path of the canal. There was an effort to accommodate a rhyme to give some importance to a Vice-Presidential nomination, in the campaign of "Tippecanoe and Tyler too," and also in the rather strained effort to invest the candidacy of Breckinridge with some vigor by shouting after the manner of orators, for "Buck and Breek."

The political friends of neither Polk, Cass nor Pierce were able to find any rallying symbols or to construct catch-couplets or enthusiastic phrases for their campaigns. Jackson was more fortunate; "Old Hickory's" contest for first place in the nation put a hickory walking-stick into every Democratic hand.

General McClellan, in his hopeless contest with Lincoln in 1864, was considerably aided by the popular nickname "The Mac," just as General Sheridan would have been by the sobriquet "Gallant Phil."

"Old Hickory" had ever "run" for office. General John A. Logan, who ran with Mr. Blaine, had the fortune to favor his friends with a nickname for use in his behalf in "Black Jack," while his principal's friends felt compelled to draw upon the seal of the State of Maine for a banner word in "Dirigo," though Colonel Ingalls, in a rhetorical flourish, had given a fictitious title to the candidate, drawn from a forced historical parallel, that served a large purpose in the contest with Mr. Cleveland.

The political friends of the two congressional delegation will join the next delegation to join the party route.

The New England delegation will join the Western delegation at the head of the candidates.

The Eastern and Middle Atlantic delegation will be at Boston.

The Southern delegation will be at Washington.

The Western delegation will be at Sacramento.

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